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10-003

<b>RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT</b>  Address to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20230	Application No.	10/025,977
	Confirmation No.	7816
	Filing Date	December 21, 2001
	First Named Inventor	SHENNIB, HANI
	Examiner	LANDREM, KAMRON R.
	Group Art Unit	3738
DOCKET No.		CATT-001

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE  
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Sir:

This is in response to the Restriction Requirement dated September 12, 2003. The Examiner therein required election of one of the following groups of claims:

Group I: Claims 1-8 and 19-27, drawn to a cardiac valve device; or

Group II: Claims 9-18, drawn to a method of securing valve leaflets.

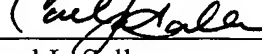
Applicants hereby elect to prosecute the claims of Group II, claims 9-18, with traverse. As stated in the MPEP §803, if search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions.

Applicants expressly reserve the right under 35 USC §121 to file a divisional application directed to the non-elected subject matter or any subject matter disclosed in this application during the pendency of this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by this paper, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0815, order number CATT-001.

Respectfully submitted,  
BOZICEVIC, FIELD & FRANCIS LLP

Date: 10/3/03

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